

Message Text

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SUBJ: CIVIL AVIATION REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN CIVIL

AVIATION SECURITY

SUMMARY: SAG DIRECTOR OF AIRPORTS, CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE (CAD), REQUESTS USG HELP IN FIELD OF AIRPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY TRAINING. CAD DESIRES: (1) USG TRAINING OF FOUR COMMISSIONED MILITARY OFFICERS IN AIRPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY; (2) A LONG-TERM ADVISOR, PREFERABLY FROM THE FAA, TO ADVISE THE CAD ON SECURITY TRAINING AND PROCEDURES; (3) ASSISTANCE IN SELECTING AND PURCHASING SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT USED IN SCREENING PERSONNEL AND LUGGAGE FOR LETHAL WEAPONS OR MATERIAL; (4) ASSISTANCE IN RECURITING ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS TO STAFF CAD ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL. MR. DABBAGH IS PREPARED TO VISIT THE U.S. IN AUGUST TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF REQUEST WITH APPROPRIATE AUTHROITIES. END SUMMARY.

1. MR. JAAFAR DABBAGH, DIRECTOR OF AIRPORTS, CIVIL

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AVIATION DIRECTORATE (CAD), VISITED EMBASSY JUNE 18 TO REQUEST USG HELP IN FIELD OF AIRPORT AND CIVIL AVIATION

SECURITY TRAINING. MR. DABBAGH STATED THAT AFTER FIVE YEARS OF WAITING, CAD NOW HAD GO-AHEAD ON MAJOR PROGRAM; MONEY WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY. HE REQUESTED:

A) USG TRAINING FOR FOUR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (CAD IS UNDER MINISTRY OF DEFENSE DIRECTION) WHO WOULD RETURN TO SAUDI ARABIA FOLLOWING TRAINING TO OVERSEE NEW IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CAD. THIS PROGRAM WOULD AIM AT TURNING OUT THREE HUNDRED SECURITY GUARDS PER YEAR DURING THE FIRST FIVE YEARS. TRAINING WOULD INCLUDE FUNCTION OF CIVIL AIRPORTS AND THEIR FACILITIES, SAFETY PROCEDURES, PUBLIC RELATIONS, FIRST AID, PASSENGER HANDLING, WEAPONS HANDLING, AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE. THE FOUR OFFICERS IN LINE FOR THIS TRAINING ARE NEW TO THE FIELD OF CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY. THEY HAD SOME KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH BUT WOULD NEED AN INITIAL COURSE OF THREE OR FOUR MONTHS' DURATION (DABBAGH'S ESTIMATE) PRIOR TO BEGINNING SECURITY TRAINING. THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BEGIN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING AROUND SEPTEMBER FIRST.

B) USG ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING FAA-RECOMMENDED AVIATION SECURITY ADVISOR. CAD DOES NOT INSIST THAT ADVISOR BE FAA EMPLOYEE BUT WANTS SOME USG CERTIFICATION THAT ADVISOR IS EXPERIENCED AND WELL-QUALIFIED. ADDITIONAL ADVISORS MIGHT BE REQUESTED IN FOLLOWING YEARS.

C) USG ASSISTANCE IN SELECTING SOPHISTICATED SCREENING EQUIPMENT TO DETECT LETHAL MATERIALS OR EXPLOSIVES IN (1) PERSONNEL (2) HAND BAGGAGE (3) LUGGAGE CARRIED IN HOLD (4) CARGO. (DABBAGH WAS MOST IMPRESSED WITH SPEED WITH WHICH AMERICAN SECURITY PERSONNEL SCREENED BAGGAGE ON RECENT PRESIDENTIAL FLIGHT.)

D) ASSISTANCE IN RECRUITING ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS FOR CAD LANGUAGE PROGRAM. CAD WOULD PROBABLY EXPECT TO CONTRACT DIRECTLY WITH SUCH EMPLOYEES.

2. IN ADDITION, DABBAGH WOULD BE INTERESTED IN A COURSE FOR HIMSELF IF SUCH A SPECIAL COURSE EXISTS FOR MID TO
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SENIOR-LEVEL EXECUTIVES IN CIVIL AVIATION FIELD. A LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILL SHORTLY BE SELECTED TO SERVE AS PROJECT MANAGER FOR ENTIRE TRAINING PROGRAM. THIS OFFICER, TOO, SHOULD PROBABLY TAKE A SENIOR-LEVEL COURSE IF AVAILABLE.

3. DABBAGH WOULD LIKE TO VISIT US IN EARLY AUGUST TO CONSULT FURTHER ON REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE. HE WOULD AT THAT TIME REVIEW COURSE SYLLABUS FOR TRAINING PROGRAM INTENDED FOR FOUR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS TO INSURE THAT

THEY WERE QUALIFIED FOR SUCH COURSE. EMBASSY OFFICER, HAVING PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED REQUEST WITH AID/OPS CHIEF NESBITT, TOLD DABBAGH THAT TRAINING MIGHT INCLUDE ENGLISH STARTING IN SEPTEMBER, 16-WEEK IPA COURSE IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION STARTING IN JANUARY, TWO-WEEK FAA THEORY COURSE AT OKLAHOMA CITY, FOLLOWED BY ONE WEEK OJT AT DULLES AIRPORT AND ONE WEEK OJT AT MIAMI AIRPORT.

4. DABBAGH SEEMED SERIOUS OFFICIAL ANXIOUS TO MOVE AHEAD ON PROGRAM HE HAD BEEN WAITING FIVE YEARS TO IMPLEMENT. HIS OWN BACKGROUND INCLUDES MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING AT SCOTT AFB 1953-54; FAA SENIOR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TRAINING 1961; AND BRIEF VISIT TO OKLAHOMA CITY FAA FACILITY IN 1965 ON SOME CAD PROJECT. ENGLISH FLUENT. WHEN ASKED, DABBAGH REPLIED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED HIS NEEDS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE ICAO TEAM IN CAD, BUT HAD IN GENERAL FOUND ICAO SLOW TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS OF THIS NATURE.

5. THIS IS ONE EXAMPLE OF TYPE OF REQUEST WE MAY EXPECT TO RECEIVE MORE OF IN VIEW OF NEW COOPERATIVE USG-SAG RELATIONSHIP. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT AND AID/OPS COMMENTS ON WHAT WE CAN OFFER CAD. ADVISOR MIGHT WORK UNDER AUSPICES OF PROPOSED AID UMBRELLA ON REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, THOUGH CAD FEELS IT NEEDS ADVISOR AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME AND WOULD LIKE TO AVOID EXTENSIVE DELAYS WHILE PROLONGED NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED. AS AN ALTERNATIVE, APPRECIATE WASHINGTON'S OPINION AS TO WHETHER ADVISOR ASSIGNED TO CAD, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, COULD BE INCORPORATED IN EXISTING AID/OPS AGREEMENT, NOW FUNDED SOLELY BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. (NESBITT SEES NO INSUR-
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MOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES, BUT MATTER WOULD NEED TO BE RAISED WITH MININT.) PROBLEM WOULD CENTER AROUND FUNDING AND WHETHER MININT WOULD OBJECT TO CHIEF, AID/OPS, SUPERVISING ADVISOR OUTSIDE MINISTRY WHEN MININT PAYS FOR SERVICES OF AID/OPS CHIEF. ALSO OCCURS TO US THAT CAD DOMESTIC TRAINING PROGRAM MIGHT EVENTUALLY OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY TO PRIVATE FIRMS.
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